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Press Release

Precise Biometrics and Cognitec Systems receive order for a European trial for multi-biometric passports

Precise Biometrics AB (publ), which develops and sells world leading and user-friendly biometric security solutions based on fingerprints, has been awarded a contract for a trial for multi-biometric passports by a European authority. The order, worth about MSEK 1, is for a number of multi-biometric verification stations, which will be developed by Precise Biometrics and Cognitec, a leading provider of advanced face recognition technology and solutions, and delivered by Precise Biometrics.

Precise Biometrics is one of four main suppliers awarded a contract for the trial, which has the purpose of evaluating the impact of introducing multi-biometrics in passports. The multi-biometric verification stations, which will include fingerprint recognition technology from Precise Biometrics and face recognition technology from Cognitec Systems, will be used for tests at sites where biometric passports will be issued. The trial, which will encompass 15,000 users in total, is estimated to start during the third quarter of 2004 and will last six months.

“We are pleased to announce the award of this contract for a trial for multi-biometric passports in Europe. This proves our position as one of the global leaders within the biometrics field,” said Mårten Öbrink, Executive Vice President at Precise Biometrics.

Alfredo Herrera, Managing Director of Cognitec Systems GmbH said: ”We are very proud to cooperate with Precise Biometrics in this project and are convinced that this is another step towards the introduction of biometrics in travel documents and border control.”

In response to the US authorities’ requirements for biometric enabled passports, the countries within EU are currently discussing how biometrics can be used in future passports for EU citizens. The trial is one of several ongoing evaluative projects in Europe.

Precise Biometrics’ fingerprint technology is well suited for applications such as ID cards, passports, travel documents and future payment cards. The multi-biometric solution, which will be delivered by Precise Biometrics, complies with the requirements regarding electronic passports presented by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which is tasked with creating guidelines for international air travel.

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Precise Biometrics AB (publ) is an innovative security company that supplies world-leading systems for authentication using fingerprints. The solutions supplied by the company replace keys, PIN codes and passwords. The company's products are cost effective and provide security and comfort combined with top-class protection of personal integrity. The range of products includes systems for access control to buildings, computers and networks and for building into mobile and fixed terminals, such as mobile phones and portable computers. The company headquarters are in Lund, Sweden. The company also has offices in Stockholm and a U.S. subsidiary in Washington, D.C. Precise Biometrics is listed on the O-list of the Stockholm Stock Exchange (symbol: PREC A). For more information about Precise Biometrics, visit http://www.precisebiometrics.com/

Cognitec Systems, with headquarters in Dresden, Germany, and offices in Herndon, VA and Miami, FL, develops and markets the well-established and world-leading FaceVACS® face recognition software. Cognitec's software experts have been developing face recognition technology since 1995. In various independent evaluation tests including the Face Recognition Vendor Test 2002 by the US Government, FaceVACS® has proven to be the leading technology available on the market.